# Developing RECREATIONAL TRAIL OPPORTUNITIES in Your Community



2007 Technical Assistance Workshop

# Workshop Presenters

#### Jean Lacher

Senior Park and Recreation Specialist
Office of Grants and Local Services
California State Parks

#### Karl Knapp

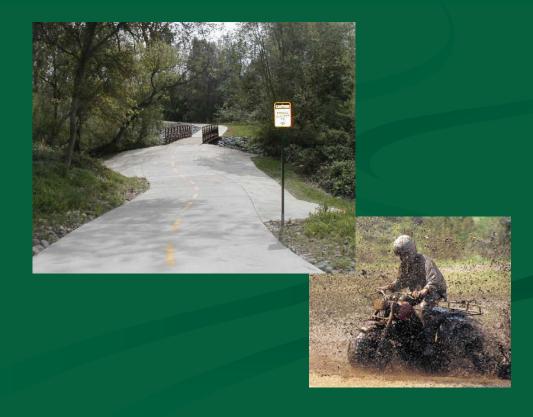
Staff Park and Recreation Specialist
Sierra District
California State Parks



# Agenda

Recreational Trails grant program (RTP) "How to Develop a Competitive Proposal"

Trail ProjectDevelopmentStrategies





# Learning Objectives

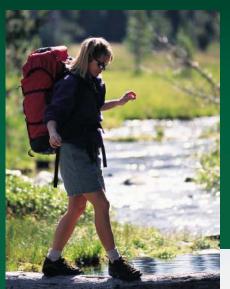
Identify the "recreational trails" grant program and evaluate how agencies can increase and enhance trail experiences through grant funding opportunities.

 Provide insight into basic trail development strategies, techniques and pitfalls.

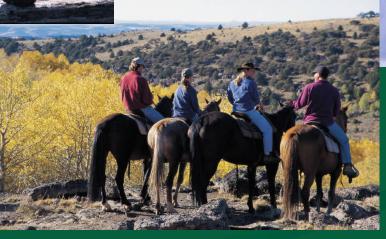




# The RTP's Purpose



To develop and maintain recreational trails and trail-related facilities for both non-motorized and motorized recreational trail uses.





U.S. Dept. of Transportation

Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)

State of California

California State Parks

**Local Administration** 

Grantees





## RTP Funds

#### From the Federal Highway Trust Fund

Represent a portion of the motor fuel excise tax collected from non-highway recreational fuel use:

Fuel used for off-highway recreation by snowmobiles, all-terrain vehicles, off-highway motorcycles, and off-highway light trucks.





## RTP Funds

# Distributed to the States by Legislative Formula

Half of the funds are distributed equally among all States.

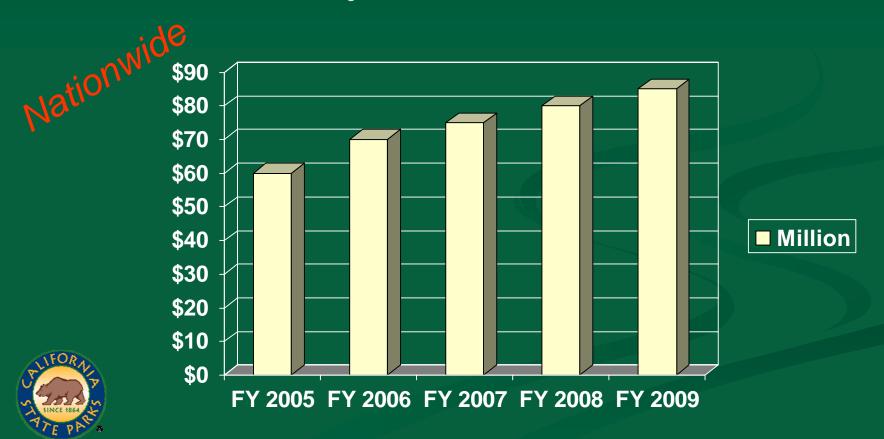
Half are distributed in proportion to the estimated amount of non-highway recreational fuel use in each State.



## **SAFETEA-LU**

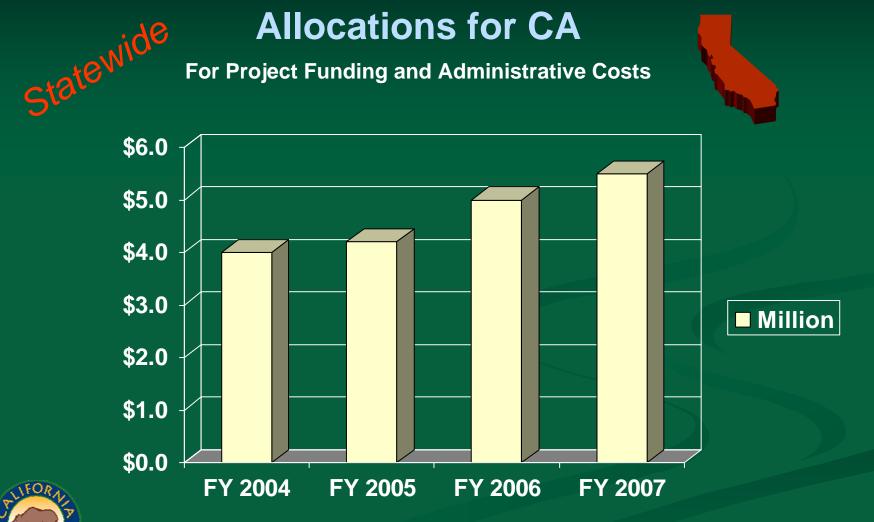
Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users

Enacted August 10, 2005 as Public Law 109-59



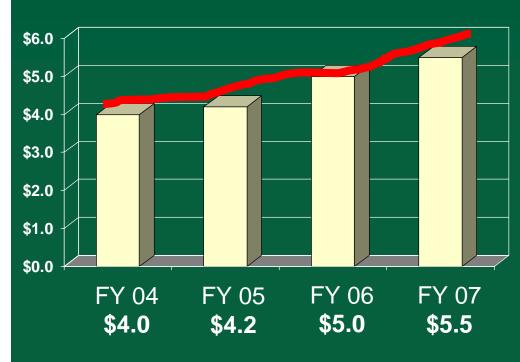
**Allocations for CA** 

For Project Funding and Administrative Costs





## Allocations for CA in millions



#### # of Non-Motorized Applications Received





# RTP Applicants



U.S. Dept. of Transportation

Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)

State of California

California State Parks

Federal Agencies

Beginning Jan. 1, 2007 State Agencies

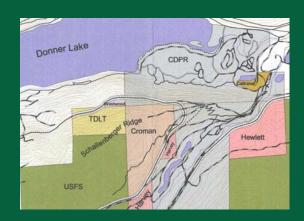
Cities, Counties, Districts **NPOs** 

Non-Profit
Organizations
with Management
Responsibility over
Public Lands

# RTP - Eligible Projects

#### **NON-MOTORIZED PROJECTS**

- Acquisition.
- Development and rehabilitation of trails and trailhead facilities.
- Construction of new trails.







# Eligible Project Examples

#### **NON-MOTORIZED PROJECTS**

- Trail system which links to other trail systems.

  RTP project submittal reflects construction of one or more segments.
- Construction of parking lot, restroom to complete "trailhead facility".
- Trail rehabilitation project.
   RTP project includes trail realignment (rehabilitation of one link to its natural state; new construction of alternate link.)



# RTP - Eligible Projects



#### **MOTORIZED PROJECTS**

- Acquisition.
- Development and rehabilitation of trails and trailhead facilities.
- Maintenance and restoration of existing trails.
- Purchase and lease of trail construction and maintenance equipment.
- Safety programs.



# Eligible Project Examples

#### **MOTORIZED PROJECTS**

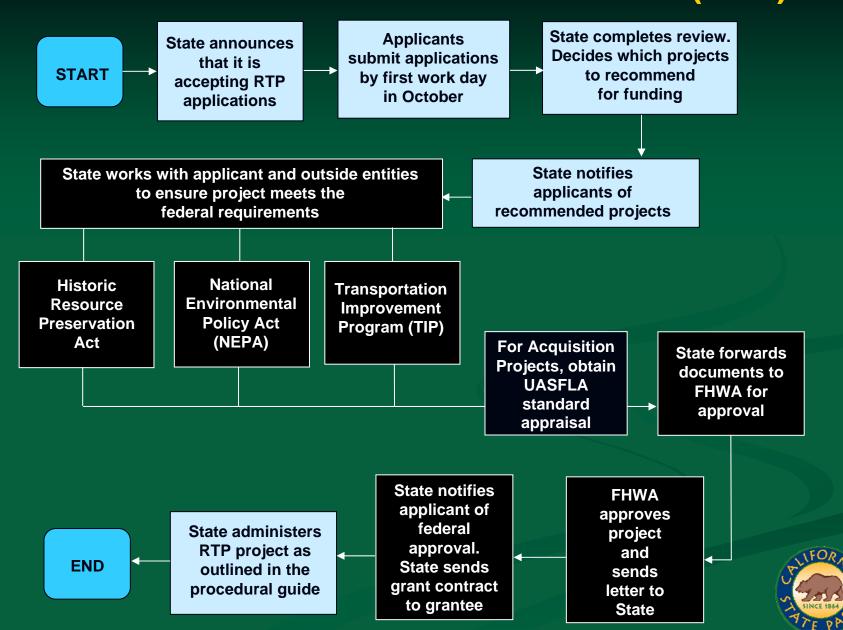
Maps for OHV Routes & Multiple-Use Trails.
 RTP project included maps of on-the-ground signage.



Trail Grooming Equipment Purchases.
 RTP project included equipment purchases

for use on OHV trails and for use on snowmobile trails.







# RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM Application Cycle

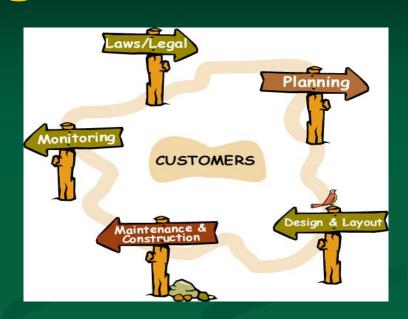
How Many People Have Projects for this October's RTP Cycle?

- Is Your Project Ready to Go?
- Let's ConsiderWhat is Needed for aSuccessful Grant Proposal...

# **Forward Planning Elements**

#### **Project Plans**

- Project Budget
- Good Representation on the Ground



**Elements Of Public Involvement** 

**CEQA / NEPA Determination** 





# **Planning Time Line**

October RTP Proposal

Due

**RTP** 

**Proposal** 

Written

Develop Proposal Components

- Budget
- Photos

Project Development

Design & Layout

Compliance

**Public Input** 

Environmental Compliance Documents

December January February March April May June July August September October

## RTP Procedural Guide

#### **2006 Guide**

Incorporated provisions from SAFETEA-LU.

#### 2007 **Guide**

- Includes references for federal agency applicants.
- Use Jan. 25, 2007
   draft version
   for the Oct. 2007
   application cycle.

Procedural Guide for the

## RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM

Under the Federal
Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Act:
A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU)





Tips about these Key Items

- Application Form
- Environmental Compliance Documents
- Cost Estimate
- Site Plan, Project Location Map, Topographic Map





#### **Application Form**

- Use appropriate form: Non-Motorized or Motorized.
- Limit information to what is requested.
- For Development Projects, provide "Recordation #".
- Grant Scope = "What the project is".

"Do" = Describe what project is.

"Don't" = Include merits of the project.



Merits of the project can be explained in the Project Proposal.

# Application Package Project Summary and Project Proposal

#### Summary:

Provide brief, one-page overview of applicant's intentions regarding the project.

#### Proposal:

Respond fully to each question or statement. If portions are not applicable, state N/A.

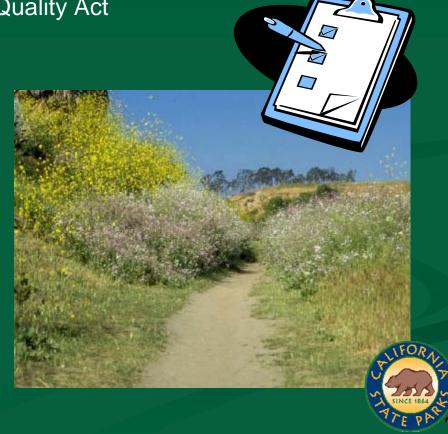
- 15-page limit for proposal.
  - Attachments are separate.
- Project merits can be addressed throughout the project proposal.



#### **Environmental Compliance**

CEQA California Environmental Quality Act

- Must be complete at time of application.
- Federal applicants must have completed NEPA.



#### **Cost Estimate**

- List all "project components".
- Must be consistent with CEQA / NEPA, Grant Scope, and Site Plan.
- Show "Required Match" amount and source(s).
  - Match amount is 12% under SAFETEA-LU.
- Note: there is no minimum or maximum grant request amount.



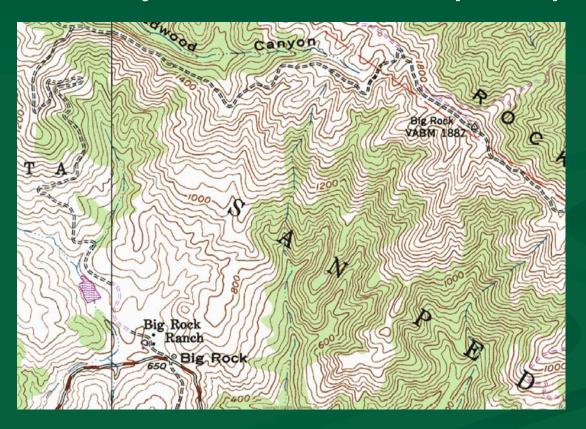




#### Cost Estimate



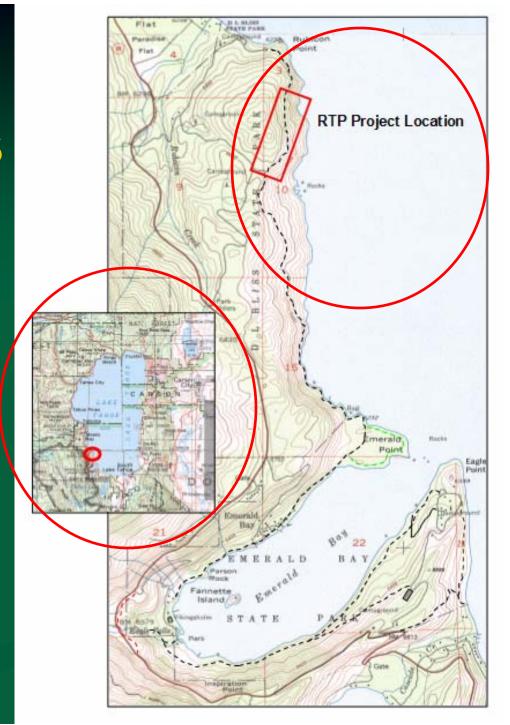
Site Plan, Project Location Map, Topo Map





# Project Location Maps

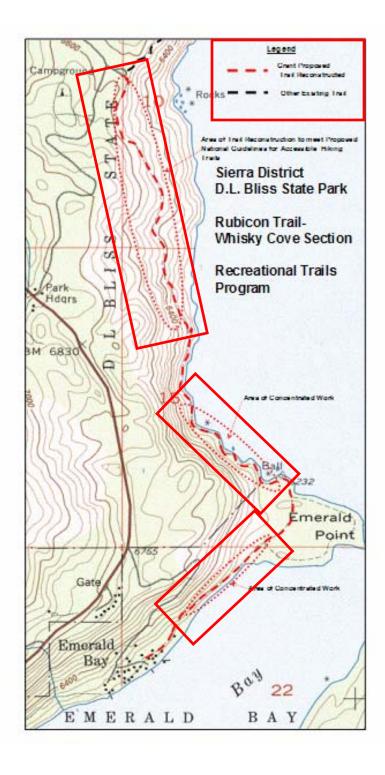
- Give Good
   Regional Location
- Identify the Project Location on the Regional Map
- Simple"Off the Shelf"TopographicPrograms Work



# Detail Work Locations on Project Maps

- Help Grant Reviewer to Visualize Your Project
- Use Identifiable Legend
- Display Project Work Area
   Clearly

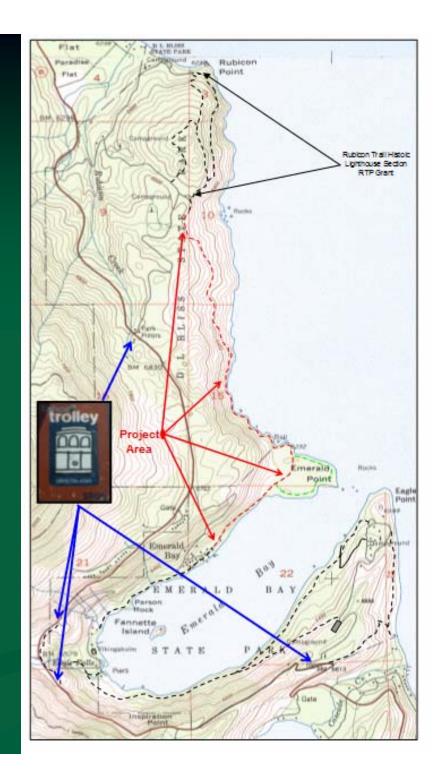




# **Show Linkages**

- Regional Connectivity to Trail Systems
- Connectivity to Transit
- Completing
   In-Park System Routing
- Show the Importance of Your Project's Connection

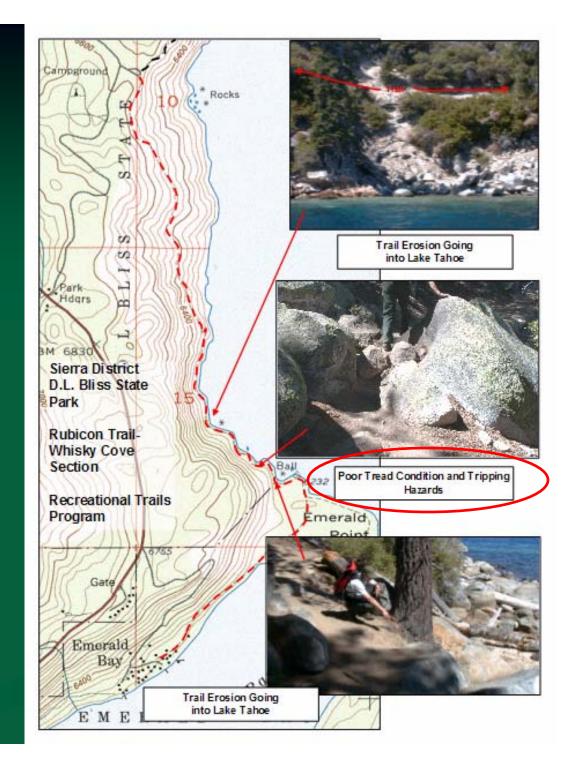




# Tie Project Photos to Work Project Maps and Site Plan

- Help
   Grant Reviewer
   to See
   Project Deficiencies
- Caption Photos for Reference





# **Trail Development Strategies**

#### 2007 Revised RTP Procedural Guide

- Review Changes
- Consider
   General
   Aspects of
   Good Grant
   Application
   Packages

Procedural Guide for the

#### RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM

Under the Federal
Safe. Accountable. Flexible, Efficient Transportation Act: A Legacy for Users
(SAFETEA-LU)



# **Trail Development Strategies**

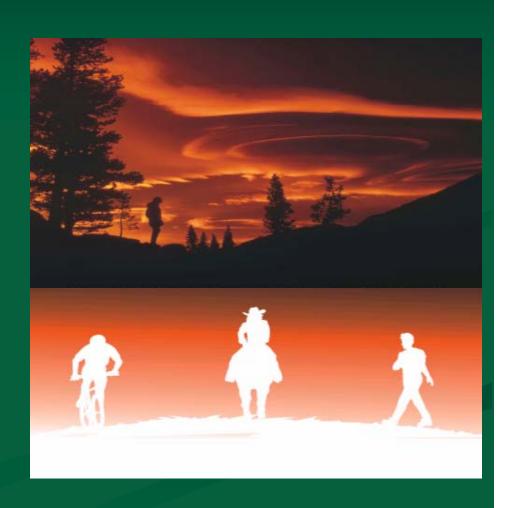






# Important Concepts Featured in the RTP Procedural Guide

- Deficiency
- Accessibility
- Sustainable Design
- Management Capacity



## **Deficiency**

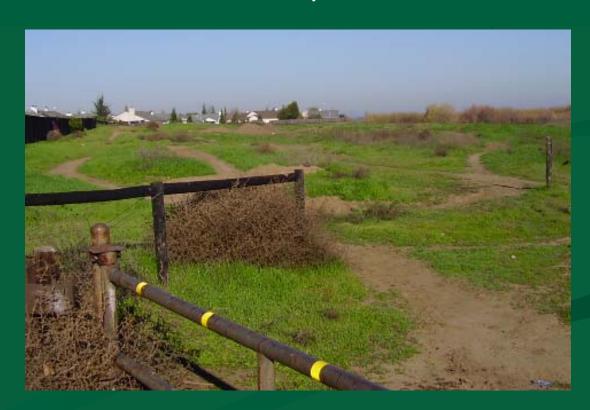
# Provides Incremental Improvements to Linkages in Areas Lacking Connections

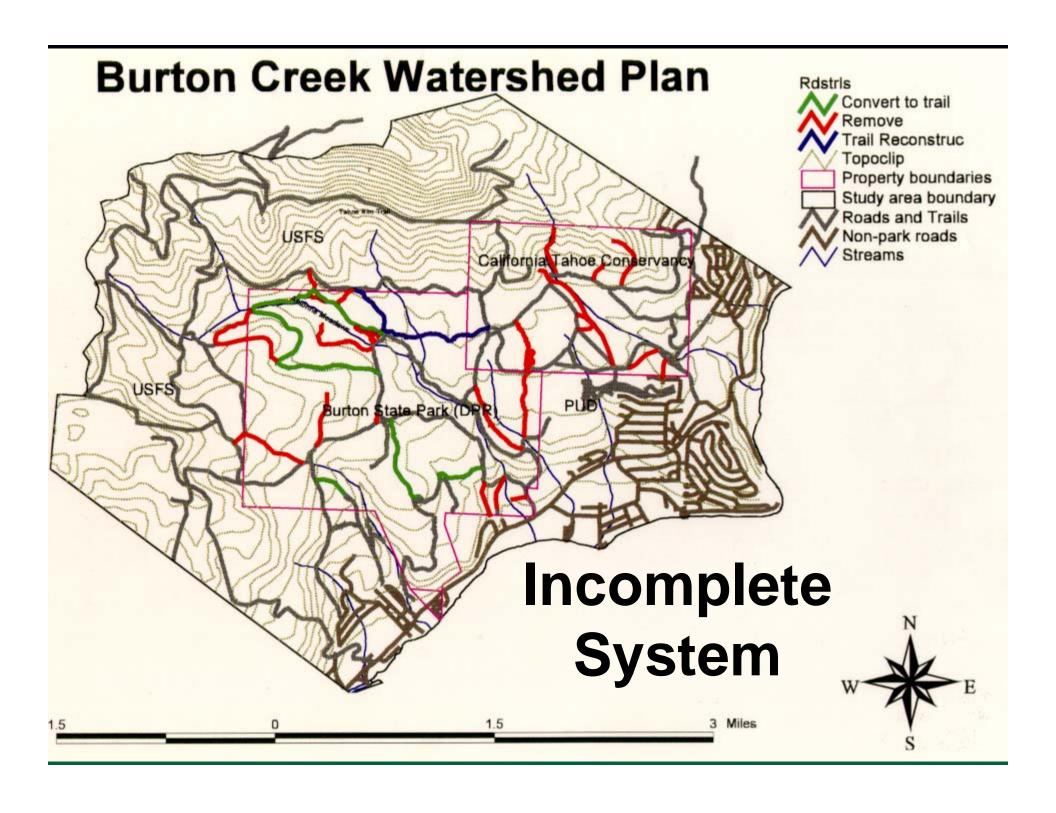
Can be New Trail or Rehabilitation of Incomplete Trail that

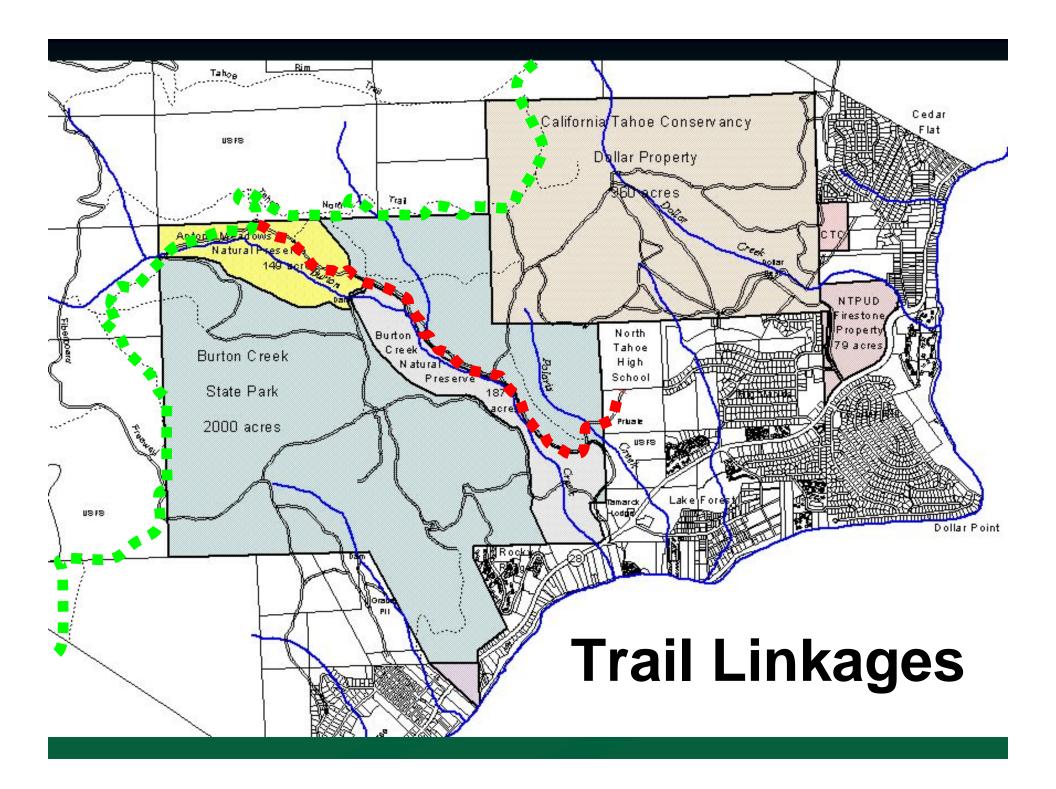
Completes a Network

Regional or In-ParkSystem Fixes

 Deficiency can be from Poor Design or Construction which Resulted in Impact to Natural or Cultural Resources







## Deficiency Can Be Caused by Resource Impacts on a Trail that is an Important Link





## Accessibility



Will the Project Provide Access to Persons with Disabilities?

Does Your Project

Meet the Proposed From Show Federal Access Board Guidelines for Repartitional Trails?



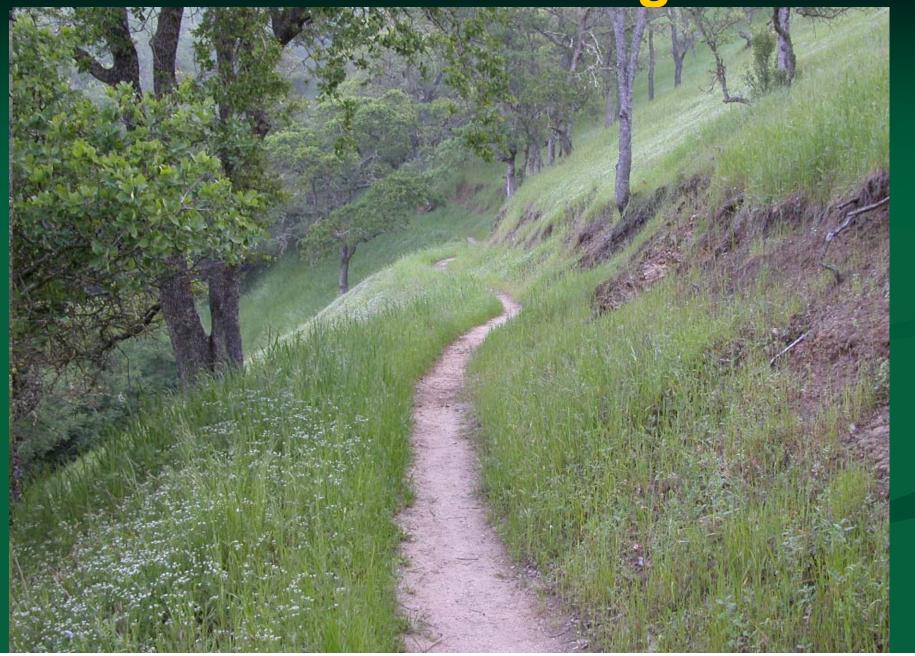
#### Accessibility



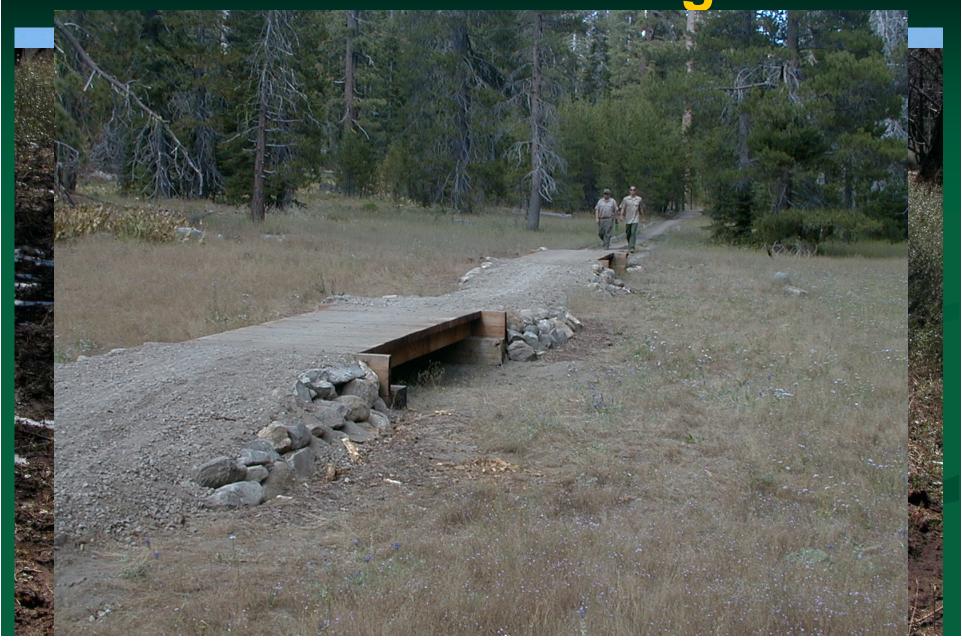
# Where Can You Get ADA Trail Information?

US Access Board
1331 F Street NW Suite 1000
Washington, DC 20004-1111
(800) 872-2253

info@access-board.gov www.access-board.gov/outdoor/outdoor-rec-rpt.htm Sustainable Design



Sustainable Design



#### Sustainable Design

- Make Your Application Competitive by Fully Addressing the Criteria.
- Review the Guide, Criteria #9, and:
  - Describe each item, A J; use "NA" if any items are not applicable.
  - Outline Your Sustainable Solutions to each item, as applicable.
- Remember, Make it Easy for the Reviewer.



## **Service Corps Involvement**

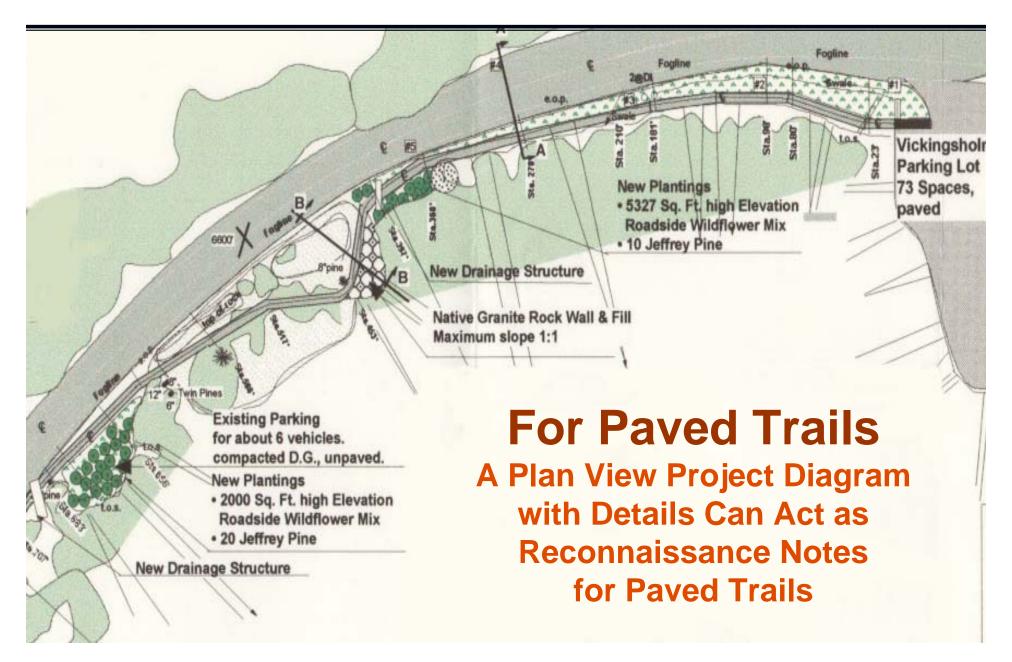


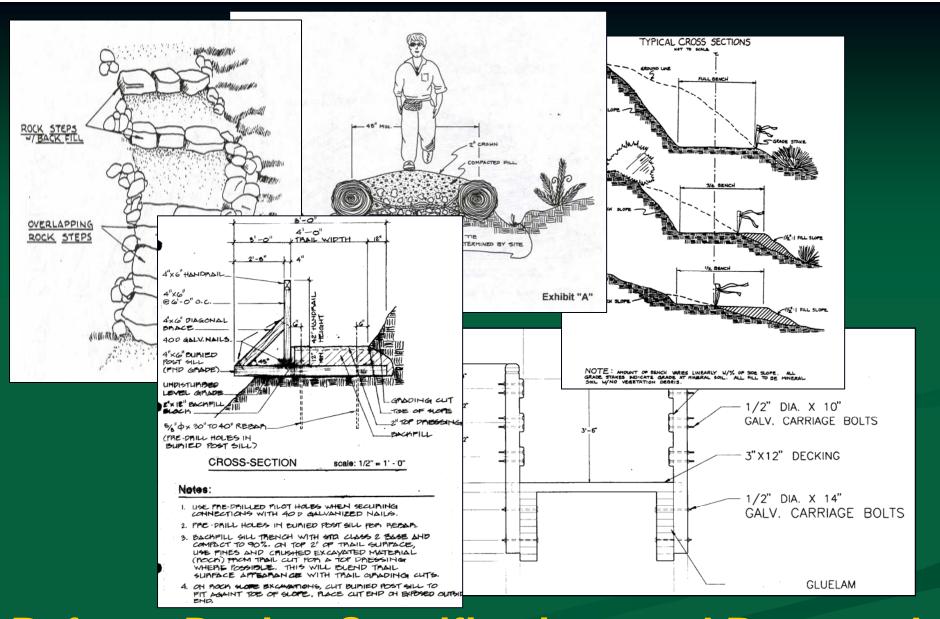


Trail: '(Cuyumaca Rancho State Park)
Re-Logged 12/16/2005

				Size/Qty					
Feet	Action	Feature	L	Н	W	Units	Comment	Picture	Total
	Main Trail								0.0
0	Reconstruct	Trail	6			lf	Start of Trail		6.0
							Two rail fence to		
0	Construct	Fence			728	lf	protect meadow		0.0
							Start of crown, 4" of		
6	Construct	Causeway (Wall less)	249			lf	fill for causeway		249.0
255	Construct	Causeway (Wall less)					End of crown		0.0
200	Construct	Caaconay (Wan 1888)					Zila di di di		0.0
255	Construct	Causeway (Wall less)	360			If	Start of outslope		360.0
							Location of Water		
313		Water Valve					Valve (Left)		0.0
615	Construct	Causeway (Wall less)					End of outslope		0.0
610	Construct	Causeway (vvaii less)					Start of Reroute		0.0
615	Construct	Trail	1254			lf	bench construction		1254.0
615	Brush	Heavy	10			if	DOTION CONTOUR GOOD		10.0
728	Construct	Fence				-"-	End two rail fence		0.0
809	Tree Removal	Heavy	45			ft	40" Dia Dead Oak		45.0
1176	Excavate	Rock	3	2	4	cf			24.0
1272	Tree Removal	Heavy					9" Dia		0.0
							scavange from rock		
1333	Construct	Abutment Rock	25	3	1.5	cf	on site		112.5
							Right bank,		
							Construct standard		
1333	Construct	Bridge	32				bridge		32.0

## Plan View Project Details





Refer to Design Specifications and Proposed Solution Typical Drawings



#### **Application Errors**

Checklist items missing.



- Project proposals not double-spaced.
- Recordation numbers missing on the application form.
- Math errors on cost estimate.
- Forms not signed by the authorized representative.



## Suggested Next Steps



- Read RTP Procedural Guide thoroughly.
- Begin forward planning elements as soon as possible.
- Contact California State Parks if you have questions.
  - For Non-Motorized Projects: Office of Grants and Local Services (OGALS)
  - For Motorized Projects:
     Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division (OHMVRD)

#### **Contact Information**

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#### Developing

# RECREATIONAL TRAIL OPPORTUNITIES

in Your Community

# SESSION EVALUATION



2007 CPRS Conference